

Amendments to the specification

Please amend the specification by making the changes shown in paragraph [172] in the Abstract which has been marked up to show the changes made relative to the prior version.

Abstract of the disclosure

[172] A shareable application program interface (API) and network data model infrastructure which is used in combination with a relational database to provide data storage and processing functions for network data. The network data model is stored in relational tables that describe a set of nodes and links forming a network wherein each ~~[[of]]~~ node represents an object of interest and each link represents a relationship between two nodes. A generic node table contains a row describing each node in the network, and a generic link table contains row data describing each link. In addition, a path table whose contents are commonly generated by network analysis procedures contains rows which describe corresponding paths each consisting of an alternating sequence of nodes and links. The sequence of links in each path is identified in a separate path-link table. The system provides two application program interfaces, a PL/SQL API and a Java API, which permit executing application programs to use stored procedures for creating the node and link tables, store data describing nodes and links in the tables, and perform standard operations on the network data.